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To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/24/02 5:56pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I am writing to express my strong disapproval of the Proposed Final Judgement against Microsoft Corp. It does not go nearly far enough to open the market to competition both in the operating systems market and the software applications market; furthermore it allows Microsoft to continue a great many anti-competitive practices.

Ideally, operating systems would be like household electrical outlets (commonplace and 100% compatible), and applications would be like vacuum cleaners and TVs (commodities built atop a common, standard infrastructure). Until that blissful state of affairs exists, the only way to ensure fairness in the software industry is to compel software makers, and particularly operating-system vendors, to clearly document all APIs, and to prevent vendors from offering those APIs preferentially to particular developers, including themselves. The Proposed Final Judgement takes tiny baby steps in this direction, when what is required is several giant leaps.

Thank you,

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